

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

**Claim 1 (Currently Amended)** A striker for locking two members with each other by engagement of said striker with a groove of a hook, wherein said striker is fixed to one of said two members and said hook is rotatably fixed to the other of said two members, said striker comprising:

a mounting plate portion fixed to said one of said two members;

a base plate portion which is formed so as to extend perpendicular to said mounting plate portion by a bending process along a bend line; and

a folded-back plate portion which is formed by folding over an extended portion, extending from one end of said base plate portion in a direction of said bend line, onto the opposite side of said base plate portion from said mounting plate portion side, so that said extended portion overlies said base plate portion,

wherein said base plate portion is positioned closer to said hook than said folded-back plate portion,

wherein a through-hole is formed in said base plate portion and said folded-back plate portion, which overlie each other, so that a folded end portion between said base plate portion and said folded-back plate portion defines a ~~rod-like~~ rod portion serving as an engaging portion engageable with a groove of said hook, and

wherein a first portion of a cross section of said ~~rod-like~~ rod portion, at said folded end portion, which is taken along a plane orthogonal to the direction of the length of said ~~rod-like~~ rod portion is greater in length than a second portion of said cross section of said ~~rod-like~~ rod portion, said first portion and said second portion being provided on said base plate portion and said folded-back plate portion, respectively.

**Claim 2. (Currently Amended)** A striker for locking two members with each other by engagement of said striker with a groove of a hook, wherein said striker is fixed to one of said two members and said hook is rotatably fixed to the other of said two members, said striker comprising:

a mounting plate portion fixed to said one of said two members;

a base plate portion which is formed so as to extend perpendicular to said mounting plate portion by a bending process along a bend line; and

a ~~rod-like~~ rod portion which is formed by folding over an extended portion, extending from one end of said base plate portion in a direction of said bend line, onto the opposite side of said base plate portion from said mounting plate portion side, so that the folded over said extended portion defines a folded-back plate portion,

wherein said base plate portion is positioned closer to said hook than said folded-back plate portion,

wherein a through-hole is formed in said base plate portion so as to define said ~~rod-like~~ rod portion, said ~~rod-like~~ rod portion serving as an engaging portion engageable with a groove of said hook, and

wherein a first portion of a cross section of said ~~rod-like~~ rod portion, which is taken along a plane orthogonal to the direction of the length of said ~~rod-like~~ rod portion, is greater in length than a second portion of said cross section of said ~~rod-like~~ rod portion, said first portion being provided on said base plate portion and said second portion including said folded-back plate portion.

**Claim 3. (Currently Amended)** A striker for locking two members with each other by engagement of said striker with a groove of a hook, wherein said striker is fixed to one of said two members and said hook is rotatably fixed to the other of said two members, said striker comprising:

a mounting plate portion fixed to said one of said two members;

a base plate portion which is formed so as to extend perpendicular to said mounting plate portion by a bending process along a bend line; and

a folded-back plate portion which is formed by folding over an extended portion extending from one end of said base plate portion in a direction of said bend line, onto the opposite side of said base plate portion from said mounting plate portion side, so that said extended portion overlies said base plate portion,

wherein a through-hole is formed in said base plate portion and said folded-back plate portion, which overlie each other, so that a folded end portion between said base plate portion and

said folded-back plate portion defines a ~~rod-like~~ rod portion serving as an engaging portion engageable with a groove of said hook, and

wherein a first portion of a cross section of said ~~rod-like~~ rod portion, at said folded end portion, which is taken along a plane orthogonal to the direction of the length of said ~~rod-like~~ rod portion is greater in length than a second portion of said cross section of said ~~rod-like~~ rod portion, a distance between said first portion and a center of rotation of said hook being shorter than a distance between said second portion and said center of rotation of said hook.

**Claim 4. (Currently Amended)** A striker for locking two members with each other by engagement of said striker with a groove of a hook, wherein said striker is fixed to one of said two members and said hook is rotatably fixed to the other of said two members, said striker comprising:

a mounting plate portion fixed to said one of said two members;

a base plate portion which is formed so as extend perpendicular to said mounting plate portion by a bending process along a bend line; and

a ~~rod-like~~ rod portion which is formed by folding over an extended portion, extending from one end of said base plate portion in a direction of said bend line, onto the opposite side of said base plate portion from said mounting plate portion side, so that the folded over said extended portion defines a folded-back plate portion,

wherein a through-hole is formed in said base plate portion so as to define said ~~rod-like~~ rod portion, said ~~rod-like~~ rod portion serving as an engaging portion engageable with a groove of said hook, and

wherein a first portion of a cross section of said ~~rod-like~~ rod portion, which is taken along a plane orthogonal to the direction of the length of said ~~rod-like~~ rod portion, is greater in length than a second portion of said cross section of said ~~rod-like~~ rod portion, a distance between said first portion and a center of rotation of said hook being shorter than a distance between said second portion and said center of rotation of said hook.

**Claim 5. (New)** A striker system comprising a striker and a hook, said system being for locking two members with each other by engagement of the striker with a groove of the hook,

wherein said striker is fixed, in use, to a first of said two members and said hook is rotatably fixed, in use, to a second of said two members, the striker comprising:

a mounting plate portion fixed to said first member;

a perpendicular portion comprising a base plate portion which extends perpendicularly from one side for the mounting plate portion along a bend line, and an extended portion which extends from one end the base plate portion in a direction of said bend line and which is folded back to overlie the base plate portion on an opposite side of the base plate portion to the mounting plate portion to form a folded end of the perpendicular portion; and

a through-hole formed in the perpendicular portion to define a rod portion at the folded end thereof for serving as an engaging portion for engaging with said groove of said hook;

wherein the part of the rod portion formed from the base-plate portion extends further into the through-hole than the part of the rod portion formed from the extended portion;

and wherein said striker and said hook are positioned so that said hook is located on a same side of said striker as said base plate portion.

**Claim 6.** (New) A striker system according to claim 5 wherein the rod portion has a substantially circular cross-section, and wherein the part of the rod portion formed from the base-plate portion has a longer radius than the part of the rod portion formed from the extended portion.

**Claim 7.** (New) A striker system according to claim 6 wherein said hook is mounted relative to the striker so that the part of the rod portion formed from the base-plate portion is positioned to be closer to the hook than the part of the rod portion formed from the extended portion.

**Claim 8** (New) A striker system according to claim 7 wherein the part of the rod portion formed from the base-plate portion is positioned to be closer to a center of rotation of the hook than the part of the rod portion formed from the extended portion.

**Claim 9** (New) A striker system according to claim 5 wherein said hook is mounted relative to the striker so that the part of the rod portion formed from the base-plate portion is positioned to be closer to the hook than the part of the rod portion formed from the extended portion.

**Claim 10.** (New) A striker system according to claim 9 wherein the part of the rod portion formed from the base-plate portion is positioned to be closer to a center of rotation of the hook than the part of the rod portion formed from the extended portion.